

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Bills Introduced: Fifteen public bills, H.R. 1288–1302; and one private bill, H.R. 1303, were introduced. Pages H3571–72

Speaker Pro Tempore: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he designates Representative Gillmor to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. Page H3419

Journal: By a recorded vote of 326 ayes to 88 noes, with 1 voting “present,” Roll No. 254, the House approved the Journal of Tuesday, March 21. Pages H3419, H3435

Holocaust Memorial Council: The Speaker appointed the following Members to the United States Holocaust Memorial Council on the part of the House: Representatives Gilman, Regula, LaTourette, Lantos, and Yates. Page H3419

Committees To Sit: By a yea-and-nay vote of 227 yeas to 190 nays, Roll No. 253, the House agreed to the Arney motion that all Committees and their subcommittees be permitted to sit today and for the balance of the week during the proceedings of the House under the 5-minute rule. Pages H3426–35

Personal Responsibility Act: House continued consideration of H.R. 4, to restore the American family, reduce illegitimacy, control welfare spending and reduce welfare dependence; but came to no resolution thereon. Consideration of amendments will continue on Thursday, March 23. Pages H3449–H3529

Agreed To:

The Archer technical amendment (agreed to by a recorded vote of 228 ayes to 203 nos, Roll No. 257); Pages H3491–96, H3522

The Archer en bloc amendment, as modified, that expresses the sense of the Congress regarding marriage as the foundation of a successful society and that out-of-wedlock births have negative consequences; strikes the provision in title I (Temporary Family Assistance Block Grants) requiring States to reduce out-of-wedlock births and replaces it with (1) a requirement to reduce out-of-wedlock pregnancies, (2) strikes the requirement that States provide education, counseling, and health services to male and female teenagers as a means of reducing such pregnancies, and (3) prohibits States from using block grant funds to provide health services; increases required work participation rates in title I for all families over the course of a fiscal year from 4 percent to 10 percent in fiscal year 1996, from 4 percent to 15 percent in fiscal year 1997, from 8 percent to 20

percent in fiscal year 1998, from 12 percent to 25 percent in fiscal year 1999, and from 17 percent to 27 percent in fiscal year 2000; prohibits the Secretary of Health and Human Services from overruling the ability of States to determine in their definitions of child abuse and neglect what is proper health care for a child; expresses the sense of the Congress that States should establish expedited adoption procedures and allocate sufficient funds from their Child Protection Block Grant toward adoption and medical assistance to reduce the amount of time children must spend in foster care; requires family and school-based Nutrition Block Grants to be equitably distributed to members of the Armed Forces residing in a State; limits the Secretary of Agriculture's authority to request specific information concerning grants under his jurisdiction to what “can reasonably be required”; adds criminal forfeiture authority to the powers of the Department of Justice and Agriculture in prosecuting violators of the Food Stamp Act; clarifies the 10-year penalty for willfully misrepresenting residency in order to receive benefits in more than one State; strikes provisions in title VII (Child Support) that prohibits the Secretary of Health and Human Services from granting exemptions to the following State law requirements: (1) procedures for establishing paternity, modification of orders, recording orders in the State registry, recording Social Security numbers, interstate enforcement, or expedited processing, (2) requires the Secretary to conclude that a network of local disbursement units costs less and takes less time than a centralized system in order to secure approval, (3) requires States to give employers one address to send child support withholding payments for centralized collection, and makes a number of technical corrections; and requires the Social Security number of the deceased appear on death certificates (agreed to by a recorded vote of 249 ayes to 177 noes, Roll No. 258); Pages H3496–H3509, H3522–23

The Kleczka amendment that strikes provisions in the bill which would authorize States to use for non-welfare purposes Federal welfare moneys that accumulate in State emergency account funds; Pages H3514–15

The Bunn of Oregon amendment that allows unwed mothers to continue to receive assistance if certain conditions are met (agreed to by a recorded vote of 351 ayes to 81 noes, Roll No. 260); Pages H3515–17, H3524

The Smith of New Jersey amendment that allows families on welfare to receive additional benefits, limited to particular goods and services used in the

care of a child to mothers under age 18 who are barred from receiving cash benefits for new children born while the family is on welfare, provided that the form of payment is by voucher (agreed to by a recorded vote of 352 ayes to 80 noes, Roll No. 261);

Pages H3517–22, H3524–25

The Wyden amendment that insures that States give consideration to relatives when making foster care or adoption placements; and

Pages H3525–27

The Woolsey technical amendment. Page H3527
Rejected:

The Kennedy motion to rise and report the bill back to the House (rejected by a recorded vote of 188 ayes to 242 noes, Roll No. 256); and

Pages H3499–H3500

The Talent amendment that sought to increase the minimum number of hours that a recipient with children over the age of 5 has to work from 20 hours to 30 hours a week in fiscal year 1996 (rejected by a recorded vote of 96 ayes to 337 noes, Roll No. 259).

Pages H3509–14, H3523–24

H. Res. 119, the rule under which the bill is being considered for amendment, was agreed to earlier by a yea-and-nay vote of 217 yeas to 211 nays, Roll No. 255.

Pages H3436–49

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yea-and-nay votes and seven recorded votes developed during the proceedings of the House today and appear on pages H3434–35, H3435, H3448–49, H3499–H3500, H3522, H3522–23, H3523–24, H3524, and H3524–25. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: Met at 10:00 a.m. and adjourned at 12:00 a.m. on Thursday, March 23.

Committee Meetings

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FDA, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Cooperative States Research and Education and Extension Service. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the USDA: Floyd P. Horn, Acting Under Secretary, Research, Education, and Economics; and William D. Carlson, Acting Administrator, Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension.

The Subcommittee also continued appropriation hearings. Testimony was heard from Members of Congress and public witnesses.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, STATE, AND JUDICIARY APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary (and Related Agencies) held a hearing on Telecommunications Issues. Testimony was heard from Larry Irving, Assistant Secretary, Communications and Information, Department of Commerce; Reed E. Hundt, Chairman, FCC; and William E. Baugh, Jr., Assistant Director, FBI, Department of Justice.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development continued appropriation hearings. Testimony was heard from Members of Congress and public witnesses.

INTERIOR APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior (and Related Agencies) held a hearing on the Forest Service. Testimony was heard from Jack W. Thomas, Chief, Forest Service, USDA.

LABOR—HHS—EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education (and Related Agencies) held a hearing on National Institute of Nursing Research, National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, Fogarty International Center, National Institute of Mental Health, National Institute of Drug Abuse, and on National Library of Medicine. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Health and Human Services: Suzanne S. Hurd, M.D., Acting Director, National Institute of Nursing Research; Enoch Gordis, M.D., Director, National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism; Philip E. Schambra, M.D., Director, Fogarty International Center; Rex William Cowdry, M.D., Acting Director, National Institute of Mental Health; Alan I. Leshner, M.D., Director, National Institute on Drug Abuse; and Donald A. B. Lindberg, M.D., Director, National Library of Medicine.

NATIONAL SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on National Security met in executive session to hold a hearing on Ballistic and Cruise Missile Threat, ABM Treaty, and on BMDO Programs and Budget. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: Daniel J. Spohn, Defense Intelligence Officer, Acquisition Support, Counter Proliferation and Arms Control; Kent Stansberry, Chairman, Compliance Review Group, Office of the Under Secretary (A&T); and Lt. Gen. Malcolm R.